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INFORMATION REPORT

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- For the first time in 73 years China had achieved a positive trade balance. That means that exports and imports in 1951 are of nearly the same value with a slight advantage on the export side.
- Figures for China-Soviet and China-Western World trade have also been published, from which the figures for trade with the satellite countries can be deduced. The following table can be compiled;

	1950		1951	
	<u>Imports</u> <u>Percent</u>	<u>Exports</u> <u>Percent</u>	<u>Imports</u> <u>Percent</u>	<u>Exports</u> <u>Percent</u>
Western World	80	69.5	29	22.0
USSR	20	26.5	44	51.5
Satellites		4.0	27	26.5

- Very interesting conclusions can be drawn from these figures:
 - The value of Chinese exports to the Western World is 32 percent smaller than imports.
 - The value of Chinese exports to the USSR is 15 percent larger than imports.
 - The value of Chinese exports to the satellites is equal to imports.
- As the value of the China-USSR turnover was about twice as great as that of China-Western World, the 15 percent surplus of Chinese exports over imports to the USSR corresponds roughly to the 32 percent surplus of Chinese imports over exports to the West. In other words, the Chinese trade balance "losses" with the USSR are being compensated by their trade balance "gains" with the West, which must be paid in money due to China by the USSR. The Chinese trade turnover with the satellites has, during 1951, been equal to that with the West. About half of Chinese foreign trade is with the USSR, one quarter with the satellites.

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5. The real situation, however, cannot be assessed without information about the absolute value of Chinese trade turnover in money and not only in percentages. In view of the general decline of Chinese foreign trade with the West, the increased percentage of her trade with the USSR and the satellites is extremely misleading. Therefore the twofold increase of Chinese-Soviet trade in percentages would not correspond to a twofold increase in value, but probably much less.

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